THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Electrification of only Delhi-Ambala-Ludhiana section has been proposed. Planning Commission have been requested to accord their clearance for taking up this work.

Opposition to grant of autonomy to colleges of Delhi University

892. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi University Teachers Association has strongly opposed the idea of granting autonomy to colleges of Delhi University;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons for their opposition;

(c) what is the Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) whether any meeting has been held with the DUTA on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (d) The Delhi University Act, 1922 empowers the University to confer autonomy on Colleges conducting courses of study in the Faculty of Medicine, Technology, Music and Fine Arts. In pursuance of the National Policy on Education, 1986 which envisages the development of autonomous colleges in large numbers, the Delhi University (Amendment) Bill seeks to widen the powers of the University to enable it to declare any college in its jurisdiction as autonomous. The Delhi University (Amendment) Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha in the monsoon session of 1988. The Delhi University Teachers Association (DUTA) has been demanding that the Bill be withdrawn as it would affect the federal character of the University adversely. Representives of DUTA have been meeting Ministers/officials in the Government from time to time to discuss some of their demands. This issue has also come up during discussions. The matter is under consideration.

Air linking of Jalandhar to Delhi and Chandigarh

893. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the desirability of linking Jalandhar in Punjab to Delhi and Chandigarh by air; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) Subject to availability of operational airfield and aircraft capacity, Vayudoot has plans to airlink Jalandhar during the current plan period.

Recruitment of pilots by National Airlines

894. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of pilots recruited by Air India, Indian Airlines and Vayudoot during the last one year; and

(b) how many out of the successful candidates are the wards of service personnel of these organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) Since 1st April, 1988, Air India has recruited 3 co-pilots and 14 trainee pilots; Indian Airlines recruited 105 trainee pilots and Vayudoot recruited 9 pilots.